

As a volunteer of our nation's oldest volunteer-answered suicide hotline, I am voicing my **opposition** to the FCC's recommendation that 211 be utilized as the three digit number dedicated to suicide hotlines. When callers reach out to us, they are looking specifically for crisis or suicide intervention; when they access 211, they are looking specifically for information or referrals. Those are two very different things. This will create a barrier to getting help for people who are in a state of crisis. When people are in a state of crisis they have a decreased state of mental clarity and they need easy access to a crisis hotline. Using 211 goes against SAMHSA's recommendations. I encourage considering 988 as a viable alternative. Thank you.